



**Benjamin Franklin Chapter
The Ohio Society
Sons of the American Revolution**
Chartered 1889

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NEWSLETTER January 2018

January meeting

The epiphany of Benjamin Franklin and how it cost him a son

Few colonists were more proud to be a subject of the British crown than was Benjamin Franklin, and few fathers were closer to their sons than was Franklin--until January 29, 1774. On that day in London, he was called before the Privy Council where he was berated, insulted, and accused of treachery against the Crown. Although he stood

silent for the one-hour attack, it was then that he became a fervent revolutionary.

However, this transformation immediately drove a permanent wedge between Franklin and his son William, who remained a loyalist.

This fascinating story will be presented by Compatriot Bob Mains at the January meeting.



MAKE A NOTE OF IT
The Next Meeting will be at noon Saturday,
Jan. 20, at the Kingsdale MCL

It is time to make plans for the 2018 George Washington's Birthday Dinner

The big night will be Friday Feb. 23, just one day from Washington's actual birthday. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Clintonville Woman's Club at 3951 North High.

Last year set a recent record for attendance. The annual event is hosted by our Chapter and is also attended by members of Central Ohio area DAR Chapters and their guests. Representatives of the CAR (Children of the American Revolution), the Ohio DAR, and the Ohio Society of the SAR.

This year's speaker will be Dr. Mark Kwasny, Professor of

history at OSN/Newark, whose talk will examine the fact that, early in his life, George Washington decided to lead a life of honor, as defined by 18th century colonial society.

That sense of honor, coupled with his upbringing, enabled him to withstand temptations to assume power--from his humble acceptance of the appointment to Commander-in-Chief, to his refusal to accept correspondence from the British intended to undermine and demean his position as Commander of the Continental Army, to his refusal to wield the full powers authorized him

by Congress during the crises of 1776 and 1777.

Still another example of Washington's taking the path of honor was the Newburgh Conspiracy, in which the army's frustration at not having been paid by Congress involved threatening correspondence by several Generals and other high ranking officers.

When Washington was made aware of the situation, he deftly and effectively halted the movement in its tracks.

Dr. Kwasny has received the OSU Distinguished Teaching Award and been included in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

BFC participates in 2017 Wreaths Across America in Worthington

Several members of the Benjamin Franklin Chapter were in attendance at the Flint Cemetery or the Walnut Grove Cemetery to place wreaths on the graves of veterans of the Armed Forces. The Dec. 16 event was organized by the Worthington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Some of the members who participated were (from left) Scott Callahan, Bob Heiser, Tim Mills, and (top right) Jim Shough.

